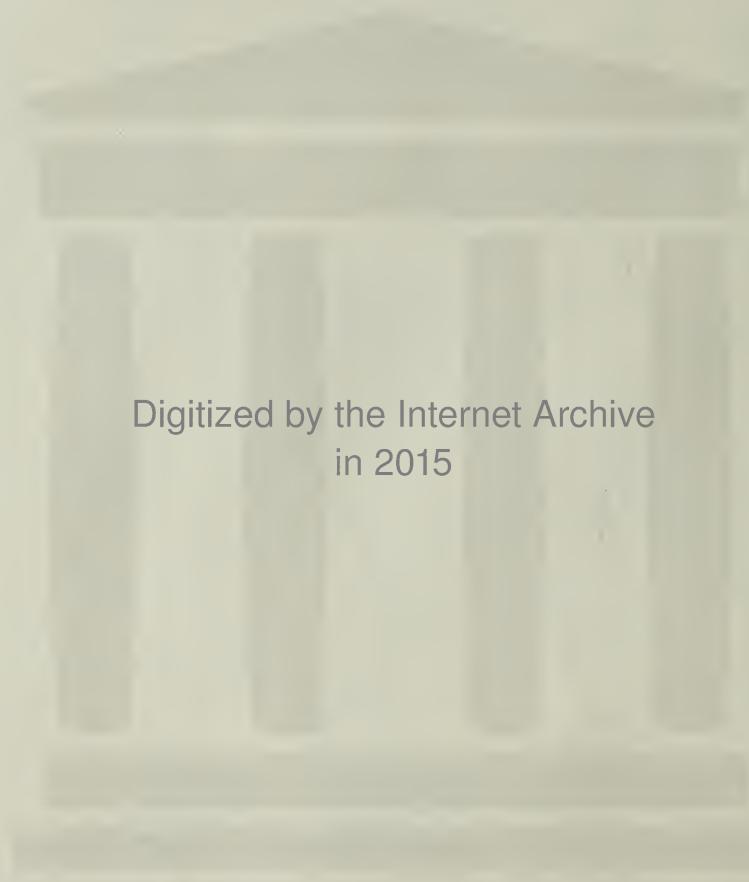


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The Eastern Border of Lebanon County.

—BY—

JOHN L. ROCKEY, Lebanon, Pa.

The Western Border of Lebanon County

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The Eastern Border of Lebanon County.

JOHN L. ROCKEY.

A borderland must rest upon some definite boundary line, established as the result of some economic or political purpose. It will, therefore, not be inappropriate or uninteresting to note here what causes led to the creation of the eastern bounds of our county. In 1682 when the political history of the Province of Pennsylvania had its beginning, the proprietor created three counties for the benefit of the existing settlements, near the mouth of the Schuylkill river. Two of these, Bucks and Philadelphia, were on the east side of the river; and the third, Chester, was on the west side and embraced the Province to its extreme western bounds. These counties remained unchanged until 1729, when Lancaster county was formed to embrace all of the Province west of the Schuylkill, except what are now Chester and Delaware counties. Twenty years later, in 1749, the western limits of Lancaster county were set in the Susquehanna river, and York county became the great Provincial county, of all the territory west of that river. But the following year, in 1750, York was reduced in size to embrace its present territory and what is now Adams county, Cumberland county, was created and for more than twenty years it was the great western county of the Province.

East of the Susquehanna, and particularly along the Upper Schuylkill, settlements had increased to such an extent that an organization was demanded for their benefit and, in 1752, Berks county was created, the seventh one in the Province. It was ordered that its western boundary should begin at a point ten miles southwest from the mouth of Monocacy creek, at the Schuylkill river, and from thence a line

should run southeast to the Chester county line. The direction of this line was then to be continued, from the aforesaid ten-mile point, in a northwestern course, to the northern extremity of the Province. Aside from the fact that this line has this peculiar direction, without any marked natural causes, it has retained the distinction of being the longest straight boundary line in the State. It is more than one hundred miles long, in its course from Chester county to Northumberland county, and separates wholly, or in part, five counties. However, by an Act passed March 16, 1865, this straight course was slightly broken, when a small triangle of land was taken from Berks county and annexed to Lebanon county, at Newmanstown, to accommodate the improvements then being made at that village.

Previous to the formation of Berks county, and about the time Lancaster county was set off from Chester, in 1729, the eastern section, of what is now almost universally called the Lebanon Valley, had been formed into two great townships, each taking a name which had already been locally applied. The first, or Tulpehocken township, embraced the country from the Schuylkill river, west to the headwaters of Little Swatara creek, whence its western line was run southward to the South Mountains. Lying west of Tulpehocken and extending to the mouth of the Quittapahilla creek, on the Swatara, was Lebanon township, and these two were the first border townships in territory where our county was subsequently created. In 1734 Heidelberg township was formed out of the southwestern part of Tulpehocken township, in the then Lancaster county; and five years later, in 1739, Bethel township was set apart from the northeastern section of Lebanon township, in the same county. But when Berks county was created, in 1752, its line cut both these townships into two, the western parts remaining in Lancaster county; and there were practically four townships formed out of two townships. Each retained the old name, and there were now Bethel townships side by side in Lancaster and Berks counties, which relation has continued, with the modification of county name.

It appears that the Lancaster part of Heidelberg township did not keep up its organization and, in 1757, it was officially re-established; and until 1813, when Lebanon county was formed, Bethel and it were the eastern border townships. With the organization of the county came Jackson township, formed out of parts of Bethel and Heidelberg, and until 1844 these were the border townships. In the latter year the eastern part of Heidelberg was torn off to form Millcreek township (it is to be regretted that it was not called Muehl Bach) and hence there are still three border townships. Before the latter division, old Heidelberg township, in Lebanon county, embraced nearly all of the most desirable parts of the border; and the extreme eastern section was undoubtedly the most important historically. Hence, the limited space of this paper will be devoted mainly to the early events of that section, with the hope that it may serve as a prelude of an article on subsequent and more recent matters of its history.

A consideration of the ancient local affairs of this border-land is hedged about with many difficulties and serious doubts of authenticity are often awakened. There is an unusual absence of recorded dates and many of the ordinary opportunities for information, often found in other rural localities, are lacking. There was no common center for the early settlement, where important interests were gathered and from which radiated the developments of the surrounding country. While the inhabitants were homogeneous, to a certain extent, their interests were not bound together, but each one seemed to act upon his own volition; consequently, in the absence of social or business organizations, there can be no proof, by those means, of many items of fugitive or traditional history. Nor were the civil organizations co-eval with the settlements and those records are disconnected and fragmentary. Unlike New England there is no train of consecutive, recorded events, from the time when primeval conditions were broken, to the present day, which show unerringly the relation of the individual to the town and to the church, and which determine his proper place among his fellows. This

absence of recorded events explains, to some extent at least, why the Common New Englander has become more widely known than his no less worthy compatriot, the Pennsylvania German, who was the pioneer of this section, and whose offspring has here continued nearly two century of years.

The early settlers were a plain people, nearly all them without means. By occupation most of them were farmers, and a large proportion of the descendants have ever been tillers of the soil, some attaining considerable wealth by this means. It has been supposed that the fertility of our lands attracted these immigrants, but that was probably a minor consideration. It is more probable that they preferred this section because they found here counter-parts of most of the features which they loved in their native country—the hills, mountains, pleasant vales, streams, springs of excellent water, which they had found nowhere else in America like here, and for which their hearts constantly yearned. At the beginning of the settlements this section was still a wilderness, occupied by a few Indians and was their rightful home.* They were very fond of this valley and they did not relinquish their claims until a dozen years later. Hence for that space of time these early settlers lived on lands without any title whatever. Consequently their improvements were meager and their methods of life extremely simple. But this was entirely in harmony with their purposes. They had not come hither in search of large landed property or of great wealth, but simply to find a place where they and their children might make homes, unfettered by the restraints of the old country, and free from its persecutions.

Even the offers of the proprietors of the Province, when they once had the right to convey title to these lands, did not create any desires for large farms or awaken discontent with their plain surroundings. Appreciating the worth of one of the leading German settlers, in what is now Lancaster county,

*The Penn family had bought the lands south of the South Mountains from the Indians in 1718; but the Lebanon Valley lands were not bought of them until 1732, when the Indians moved north of the Blue Mountains and thence to the west.

one of the proprietors had offered him, in 1720, a tract of one thousand acres of land. The stern German refused the offer as inconsistent with his religious professions and made this further explanation : "It is not only beyond my desire, but also my ability to clear; if clear, beyond my power to cultivate; if cultivated, it would yield more than my family can consume." In these respects they were like the Puritans: They sought new homes for their conscience sake, and, moreover, they were a liberty loving people, as was shown by later events.

Nearly all the first settlers were Palatines, or natives of the Palatinate country, composed of several small States, on both sides of the Rhine river, in Southern Germany. Here were found some of the highest types of manhood, as early as the fifteenth century, and later and up to about 1630 was the peaceful abode of many Protestant Christians. In no other part of the world were the ideals of that faith better developed or more exalted than in the Upper and Lower Palatinate countries, and as the conditions for life there were favorable, the lands very fertile and the climate good, the people were happy and contented under a wise and liberal government. But that country, in common with many other parts of Europe, became disrupted by religious agitation and for many years was in a state of unrest. Its serenity was particularly disturbed from 1675 to 1695 when the country was greatly devasted by war and the frequent incursions of Roman Catholic troops from France and Spain, who were relentless in their persecution of the Protestants. In this period, in 1685, ended the reign of the last of the Protestant princes of the royal family and thenceforth the rule was by another branch of the family, whose members were staunch Roman Catholics. The Palatines resisted this intrusion upon their dearest rights until the beginning of the seventeenth century when the horrors of pestilence and famine were added to those of war, and many fled from the country. As Holland had ever been an asylum for those distressed by religious troubles, many Palatines sought refuge there, but that country was too small for so

great an influx of people, and took measures to halt the immigration. At this stage, the good Protestant Queen Anne, of England, extended a welcome to those distressed people, inviting them to take refuge in that country. But so great was the rush, from Holland and the Palatinates direct, that before 1708 more than 30,000 Palatines had crowded upon the outskirts of London. In some respects the exodus assumed the form of a panic and naturally there was much suffering and distress connected with the movement. And as no provision had been made in England for so large a mass of humanity, the conditions at the Palatine camp, through want, sickness and death were soon alarming in the extreme. It is said that 10,000 people died for want of proper sustenance and that 7,000 more returned to their native land, half naked and in great despondency, but preferring the evils there rather than the privations they had endured in strange lands. In 1709 about 17,000 of these unfortunate people were still in England, where their distressful condition caused the government much concern. It was greatly censured for its lack of foresight, and as many objected to the presence of these foreigners some riots had ensued. At this point the government determined to send some of the Palatines to the English Colonies in North America. This purpose may have been brought about, by a visit to England, at that time, of five Mohawk Indian Chiefs, who had gone as a delegation to protest against the aggressions of the French upon their rights in New York. They saw the distressed Palatine camp and were moved to pity these friendless people. Believing that they would fare better in America, they offered them homes on their lands, in the Mohawk Valley, where they might hunt and fish and earn a livelihood by tilling the soil. Such a project was sanctioned by Queen Anne's Parliament and the preparation for removal to America began. "Ten sails of vessels were freighted, with upwards of 4,000 Germans for New York. They embarked December 25, 1710, and arrived at New York June 14, 1710. On the inward passage and immediately upon landing, 1,700 died. The survivors encamped

in tents, which they had brought with them, on Nutting (now Governor's) Island. Here they remained until late in Autumn when about 1,400 removed to Livingston Manor, 100 miles up the Hudson river.''*

Others of the Palatines were settled on Long Island, and some remained in the neighborhood of New York City. This disposition was foreign to the benevolent purposes of Queen Anne. Her intentions had been to settle them in some favorable locality where they might have pleasant homes and establish schools and churches, to re-establish the conditions of their native country before the days of persecution. But the location at Livingston Manor had in view an entirely different purpose. Those directing it had planned it on a commercial basis, whose primary object was to obtain, in the least space of time, the return of the Parliamentary grant, about 10,000 pounds sterling money, which had been expended for transportation and for subsistence. Hence they indentured these people to earn about \$33.00 for each person of the colony, and set them to work to produce what was at that time most salable, naval stores, or tar and hemp.

It is needless to say that the Palatines had no experience at that kind of labor and that the restrictions imposed on them made the task extremely distasteful. Moreover, the locality was not suitable for the growing of hemp, having been selected because the pine forests, abounding there, permitted the making of tar. After several years of oppressive effort, this scheme was abandoned as a failure and an effort was made to settle them on farms, or in small villages, on a basis of ground rental. But as that deprived them of much of the freedom for which they aspired they vigorously protested against the arrangement and became very much disaffected. Later the disrupted conditions led many of them to unite in a movement to seek new homes in the section recommended to them in England by the Indian chiefs and sanctioned by Queen Anne. A committee sent to examine the country had

*Rupp's 30,000 Immigrants, p. 5.

reported favorably on the Schoharie Valley, lying about 60 miles northwest from their abodes on the Hudson, and it was determined to go to that place. Accordingly, late in the fall of 1713, the journey to that region was begun. About one hundred and fifty families joined in this exodus which was destined to end, in later years, on our own eastern borders. Their way was through an unbroken wilderness and was so tedious that it took three full weeks to complete it. They had no horses to carry their goods, but what little was taken was carried on their backs, or dragged along, on rudely constructed sleds, often through three feet of snow. Their journey was full of suffering for lack of proper food and clothing and for a few years dire want and some distress prevailed. All were poor, but by aiding one another, the making of their permanent homes was begun in a noble and praiseworthy manner. Their purpose and determination was so steadfast that the greatest obstacles were overcome, and they developed into vigorous and strenuous types of manhood and womanhood which raised them above absolute want. Apparently they were now free from all oppression and petty exactions, and a spirit of equality prevailed which made them very hopeful. Energetic efforts were made to develop the country and at least seven villages were founded, which were named after the prominent settlers, and where it was hoped churches and schools might be established. The ideals of the German home were at last to be realized.

But a bitter disappointment was in store for these people. After the lapse of half-a-dozen years, when their efforts had attracted the attention of unprincipled men, high in the councils of the Province of New York, it was discovered that Queen Anne's supposed grant of land was not a reality nor could its legality be maintained. The titles the Germans had for their lands were declared defective, and the entire section of country was sold to a body of seven men, who were to stand in the relation of landlords to the Palatines—an evil they were endeavoring to escape. Nor was the proposition to sell them small tracts of lands received with any more

favor. The price asked was on the basis of the improvements which these settlers themselves had made, and was flagrantly unjust. These propositions were so repulsive to the Palatines that "a great uproar arose, both in Schoharie and Albany upon this notice;" but the order was not changed. An effort to secure Royal intervention also failed to bring the hoped-for relief, the good patron, Queen Anne, having died in this critical period. After some years of unrest, the Provincial Governor Hunter, who had aided in so bitterly oppressing the Palatines, was recalled and his successor was ordered "to grant vacant lands to all the Germans who had been sent to New York by the deceased Queen Anne." But this decree did not lessen the feeling the Palatines had in the matter of the sense of injustice so bitterly forced upon them. There was also a suspicion aroused which caused them to distrust the New York authorities, that these promises were not sincerely made. Another exodus was planned and a final place of refuge was eagerly sought.

The attractions and advantages of the Province of Pennsylvania were now brought to their attention. It was reported to them that the climate was milder, the scenery more beautiful—more like the Fatherland,—that they would not be treated as aliens, but were to be given a kind reception and the privilege to acquire by purchase as much land as their substance would permit. About this time Governor Keith, of the Province of Pennsylvania, made a visit to Albany and they learned from him directly that if they should come they might have all the freedom they were seeking and the full measure of justice accorded to all the citizens of the Province.

A purpose was now fully formed, on the part of many of the Schoharie Palatines, to remove to the Province of Pennsylvania and early in 1723 the work of preparation was begun. They had heard with particular favor of the lands along the Swatara and the Tulpehocken, which were at that time, on the outskirts of the most remote settlements from Philadelphia, and thither their movement was directed. Their friendly

relations with the Indians now served them a good purpose. They told the Palatines how to reach these lands by the best and shortest routes and some of their warriors offered to serve as guides on the journey.

After cutting a road through the forests from Schoharie to the headwaters of the North Branch of the Susquehanna, in New York, they carried their goods to that point, in the spring of 1723, and embarked upon some rafts which they had built for the voyage. They floated slowly down the river until the mouth of Swatara creek was reached, when they worked their way up that stream, to a favorable landing point in the Lebanon Valley. In the meantime some of the men and Indians had driven their cattle overland. They now proceeded to the waters of the Tulpehocken, locating in the Millcreek section. Thirty-three families constituted this body of settlers, the most prominent being those of John, Peter and George Rieth (Reed), John Lantz, Godfried Fitler, Conrad Sheetz, John Adam Lasch, Lorentz Zerbe, Andrew Walborn, Christian Lauer, John N. Schaffer, Sebastian Fisher and George Anspach. Of the character of this people, beyond the fact that they were bitterly persecuted, disappointed Palatines, but little is known. It is claimed by some that this colony came under the direction of John Conrad Weiser, (father of Conrad Weiser) who had performed important missions for the Palatines in New York, but who was not properly supported by them in this enterprise. They disputed his leadership and from a subsequent record of this event we learn: "That there was no one in the entire company who could govern them, each one acted as he preferred and stubbornly persisted in so acting." There is no doubt about the continuance of this disposition, in their new homes, and this affords a reason why so little is known of them as a community. Individual thought and action overshadowed all other interests, and reveling in the freedom they had at last attained, each one appears to have been determined to exercise his liberty to the fullest extent. Nevertheless they did not forget their fellow Palatines in the Schoharie country and the

reports they sent them were the means of instigating additions to their number from that source. In 1728 another body of twenty-seven families left to cast their lot with the Tulpehocken settlers. Among these were Leonard Anspach, George Zeh (Sec), Andrew Kapp, Jacob Loengut (Liven-good), John Noecker, Jacob Werner, Henry Six, Conrad Scharf and George Schmidt. These families and others, who had come direct from Europe, by way of Philadelphia, or who removed here from older communities, in this Province, gave the settlements a population of several hundred, which for some years was almost entirely independent of civil and church relations, but which now began to feel the need for such bonds.

In 1729 Conrad Weiser, with his wife, two sons and three daughters, came from Schoharie and at once prominently identified themselves with the Heidelberg part of the Tulpehocken settlements. From the time of his coming, Conrad Weiser was an acknowledged leader, and by reason of his great worth and strong personality he was so distinguished until his death in 1762. He was, at that time, also one of the best known Germans in public life in the Province. His homestead was composed of a large area of land, one mile east of where the village of Womelsdorf was later founded. And on that farm his remains still lie in a comparatively neglected grave, which gives little evidence of the esteem in which he was held, not only at home, but elsewhere in the Provinces of New York and Pennsylvania. Several attempts to provide a proper resting place and appropriate monument have been futile. But the purpose should be continued by his descendants and the general public, for surely no man of his time was more worthy or better deserved such honors.

It should be noted here that the most of the early settlers on the Tulpehocken and its affluents, especially those of any prominence, lived in what is now Berks county. Undoubtedly a number of those living in what is now Lebanon county were very worthy people, but it does not appear that they had the qualities of mind to fit them for leadership, even in the

simple affairs of those times; and they did not, therefore, become as prominent as the Reeds, Loechners, Weisers, Fitlers, or as, in a later day, Benjamin and Peter Spycker, who lived in the present Stouchsburg locality. Some of these were educated men and after the new county organization became effective, in 1729 and later, were participants in civil affairs and attained considerable prominence. About this time the tide of immigration to this section was particularly strong. Many of the friends and former neighbors of these Palatines came to the New World to aid in its development. Some of these later settlers were Redemptionists, who had just been freed from their indentures in the older communities of the Province, and the experience they gained there greatly helped them in making their new homes. These conditions, together with the now conceded right to the Germans to become land holders in Pennsylvania, and the ability to secure warrantee deeds for such lands, after 1733, aided wonderfully in improving the country. The zeal and energy displayed in selecting lands and developing them attracted the attention of the Provincial authorities and some opposition against the Germans was manifested, resulting in a petition that they be restrained in their too free acquisition of lands. But Governor Thomas could not adopt that view. He said, in 1738: "This Province has for some years been the asylum of the distressed Protestants of the Palatinates and other parts of Germany, and I believe that it may be truthfully said that the present flourishing condition of the Province is, in a great measure, owing to the industry of these people." In later years the industry and perseverance of these people was manifested yet more clearly, and the evidence remains to this day, in a few instances, of substantial improvements.

No form of improvement was greater than that of farm development. That life was so attractive to them that no attempt was made at village building, as was the custom in the old country. However, with increased population and the laying out of roads, to the Lancaster and Schuylkill settlements, came the suggestion of such a need. But strange

to say, the work of making a village, in this German community, was left to an Irishman, Walter Newman by name. On the 30th of October, 1741, he bought of the proprietors 234 acres of land, finely located for such a purpose, and soon after laid out some lots, calling the place Newbury.

The village did not flourish beyond the building of a few log houses. The sturdy Germans preferred to live on their own lands, instead of paying a yearly rental, and besides they may have had prejudices about living in an Irishman's town, under any consideration. The town site was held by the Newman family for more than sixty years and after the customs of those days became known as Newmanstown, which appellation is still retained. More than a hundred years were needed to remove the blight of the ground rent system, and in recent years only has the place been built up substantially, and with features in harmony with the richness of the surrounding country.

Since the Palatines and other German settlers of the eastern border had left their native country to obtain greater religious freedom and many, indeed, had been compelled to leave, to escape religious persecution, the conclusion would be natural that they would make an early and strenuous attempt to here establish their ideals. But such does not seem to have been the case. They now had freedom to worship without fear of governmental restraint, but seem to have been unable to agree as to the forms of worship, or even to accept some creed which would permit them to become a potent force. They insisted upon the exercise of individual opinions, as to the various beliefs, and so freely expressed them that proper respect for church ordinances and usages was lost. Through abuse of their long sought liberty, they became, if not Godless, so indifferent to former professions that no wholesome Christian influence was exerted. The eastern borders were not, as they might have been, a profoundly religious community from the beginning. It is true that attempts at church organization were made soon after the Pala-

tines had come and that, as early as 1727, a plain log building had been put up as a place of worship, by the united efforts of the community, where was afterwards built what became known as Reed's Lutheran church, or the Tulpehocken, in Berks county. But there was so much dissension connected with it that its usefulness was impaired, if not wholly lost, until many years later. In the meantime some of the followers of Alexander Mack, who had founded the German Baptist (Dunkard) church, in 1708, in Germany, and whose members through bitter persecution had been forced to flee to America, had settled on the Mill Creek, near where is now Newmans-town. There they were visited, some time about 1725, by Peter Becker, who had been appointed official baptizer of this sect, at Germantown, in 1723, and under his preaching a number of converts were made. These were baptized by immersion in one of the streams of that section, that being the first performance of the rites in this county. Among those baptized was Conrad Beissel, a young German, who had studied to become a minister of the Presbyterian church. He had strong convictions and great force of character, which led him to proclaim his new faith with unusual zeal, and he soon had a number of followers. Further study convinced him with the belief that Saturday should be observed as the seventh, or Lord's Day. To impress his views upon his fellow brethren he published a tract, in 1725, upon this subject. This caused much excitement in the community as well as some turmoil. To allay this Beissel retired and, in 1728, removed to what is now Ephrata, where he lived as a religious recluse. He was followed by a number of families from Mill Creek and a new community was founded. In 1733 a great religious awakening happened on the eastern border whose influence affected its most important citizens. But these events and others of a religious nature, prevailing in Mill Creek, and extending to the nineteenth century, may properly be related in a later paper, as a sequel to this one.

The Western Border of Lebanon County.

E. E. McCURDY, Esq.

The history of the Western Border of Lebanon County, when fully written, will disclose many important and interesting facts concerning the early settlers in this section. For the present, however, I must content myself with reading to you the story of the early settlement of this portion of our county as compiled from local historical works, with which my hearers are familiar, and also such few facts as I gleaned with the aid of a few friends, with the hope that in the future some one may write a more complete history upon this subject.

The Western Border of Lebanon County I shall assume is included in the strip of country between what was the eastern line of Dauphin county when it was formed out of Lancaster county on March 4, 1785, and what is now the western boundary of Lebanon county.

The western boundary of Lebanon county is fixed and well known, but the eastern boundary of Dauphin county, before Lebanon county was formed, is not definitely fixed and may be disputed. I shall adopt for the purpose of this paper the line suggested by Doctor Egle on page 216 of his History of Lebanon County, where he gives reasons for his conclusion.

He reasons that this line extended from the junction of the Quitopahilla creek and the Swatara, near Bindnagle's church, southward along the Quitopahilla creek, Killinger's Run, and a line "southeast from the headwaters of that run to the Conewago creek." By Killinger's Run Doctor Egle

evidently means the run which rises in the Conewago Hills, south of the Burkholder farm, near Campbellstown, and flows northwardly, crossing the Berks and Dauphin Turnpike road, about one and one-half miles west of Annville, and empties into the Quitopahilla creek at Newmarket Forge. This stream is marked as Killinger's Run on Thomas Smith's map of Dauphin and Lebanon counties, authorized in 1816. When Lebanon county was formed all of what was then East Hanover township, Lebanon county, had been a part of Dauphin county. From the East Hanover township of that day, has since been formed Cold Spring, Union and Swatara townships, as well as the present East Hanover township.

Therefore what is at present included in East Hanover township, together with the section already described, which is now included in North and South Londonderry townships, will be considered as the Western Border of Lebanon County.

Indeed, a reading of the history of the settlement of Derry and Paxtang townships, of Lancaster, and later Dauphin county, will give us to a large degree the history of the Western Border of Lebanon County. For North and South Londonderry townships, which until recently were included in Londonderry township, Lebanon county, are but the eastern portion of the old Derry township, and East Hanover township was the eastern portion of Paxtang township.

The members of our Historical Society are well acquainted with the fact that the Western Border of Lebanon County, as already described, was the extreme eastern end of the tide of Scotch-Irish immigration which moved northward from Philadelphia along the eastern bank of the Susquehanna river and at this point was met by the western extremity of the German settlement, who, in coming from the Schoharie Valley, already found this section occupied by the Scotch-Irish, and therefore moved beyond to the eastern border of what is now Lebanon county, and extended their settlement westward until they met their Scotch-Irish neighbors in Derry and Paxtang townships.

My subject therefore compels me to confine myself almost exclusively to the consideration of the Scotch-Irish who settled in this region.

With your permission, not for the sake of giving you information which you already have, but for the sake of making it a matter of record, I briefly state the history of the Scotch-Irish as I have gleaned it from others who have discussed the subject.

The Scotch-Irish, as we all know, are the descendants of Scotch settlers in the province of Ulster, Ireland, and are known only in America as Scotch-Irish, otherwise they were known as Scotch people. Quoting from the International Cyclopedias, I find that "in 1608 the estate of the rebels Earls of Tyrone, Tyrconnel in the six counties of Armagh, Gavan, Termanagh, Derry, Tyrone and Donegal, in the province of Ulster were forfeited to the crown and the fertile land cleared of disloyal Irish and parceled out to Scotch and English settlers.

For three centuries before this Helvidians had been forming settlements in Antrim, their chief Mcdonnel, having been created Earl of Antrim, while lowlanders flocked in large numbers to this country and Down. These were duly augmented by refugees from the persecution under Charles II. All these coalesced into one Presbyterian people whose descendants now numbered about half a million. Belfast, towards which the Scotch tended to converge, showed signs of the Scotch thrift, shrewdness, energy and prosperity."

These Scotchmen were not bound by any patriotic ties to their new country, therefore, when taxes became oppressive and when political and religious troubles began to multiply, they began to look for a refuge in the woods of Pennsylvania. Between the years of 1717 and 1773 two great tides of immigration swept into Pennsylvania, viz: Between the years 1717 and about 1750, and between 1771 and 1773 respectively, bringing over about 250,000 souls. A few of these immigrants landed in Maine, of which a large number afterwards came to Pennsylvania. The greatest portion of them landed at New-

castle and Philadelphia, whence they scattered north into Pennsylvania and south into Virginia and the Carolinas, a large number pushing their way up along the east bank of the Susquehanna river, each succeeding wave of immigration pushing farther and farther north until Donegal, in Lancaster county, was settled, and, pushing eastward from the Susquehanna river, establishing the settlements of Paxtang and Hanover.

These Scotchmen, who on their arrival in America were designated as Scotch Irish, by which name they are known to this day, were all Presbyterians, and the line of their settlements is distinctly marked by the churches which they established, namely: Donegal, Derry, Paxtang and Hanover.

Among the Scotch Presbyterians who suffered persecution at the hands of the English Kings, (the Stuarts) are found the names of Allison, Stewart, Gray, Thompson, Murray, Robinson, Rutherford, McCormick, Mitchell, Kerr, Todd, Beatty, Johnston, Hamilton, Finley, McCord, McEwen, Hall, Boyd, Clark, Sloan, Elder, Forster, Montgomery and Roberton, in which we easily recognize the surnames of many Scotch-Irish families, who afterwards settled in Derry and Paxtang townships.

The influx of the German settlers into the eastern part of Lebanon county soon brought these Germans and their descendants into contact with the early Scotch-Irish settlers, so that on the tax list of the eastern end of Derry and Paxtang townships (later Hanover) we find a mixture of German and Scotch-Irish names. These people were of different disposition and of different training. In many respects the Scotch-Irish, in occupying the lands in the Province of Ulster, Ireland, were not in any manner crowded, and therefore occupied farms of large area and were not compelled to conduct their farm operations so as to bring forth the largest possible harvest. When they settled in this country they followed the same plans and located on the hillsides and continued to farm along the same lines as was their custom in Ireland, while

their German neighbors had come from a thickly populated country where they were obliged to make every foot of ground yield as much as possible. These people settled in the lowlands and were content with farms of smaller area, which they tilled so as to produce the largest possible crops. They devoted themselves exclusively to farming, while the more restless Scotch-Irish concerned themselves deeply with the matters of public interest to which they gave a large portion of their time.

These elements combined, brought about the result that in later years the Germans became to be known as the better farmers, while the Scotch-Irish seemed perfectly content and willing to sell their farms to their frugal neighbors, some to move to the larger towns to engage in industrial enterprises and matters of public interest, and others to move into the western part of the State and into Ohio to seek their fortunes there.

There seems to have been considerable feeling at times between the Germans and the Quakers on the one hand and the Scotch-Irish on the other.

A feeling that in some instances has been perpetuated to a comparatively recent date. Your humble servant distinctly remembers that in his school-boy days the most severe epithet used by the children in their quarrels was to call their antagonist "Irish."

As a rule there was little intermarriage between the Scotch-Irish and the Germans because of this feeling. But love regards neither lock nor bars nor race prejudice, so that we have a number of instances of the intermarriage between the Scotch-Irish and the Germans. The reader being a descendant of Scotch-Irish and a German ancestry resulting from intermarriage, one line of his ancestry originating from the mountains of Switzerland and the other from the plains of Donegal, Ireland. Interesting stories are related by the more aged of the present generation of the violent opposition aroused among the parents and family of the Scotch-Irish

when one of its members became married to a child of a German neighbor, and vice versa.

The insurrection of the Paxtang boys aroused considerable feeling and interest which I shall not stop to relate, so much so that Governor John Penn wrote to his brother in England, "Their next move will be to subvert the government and establish one of their own." A detailed history of this insurrection has already been written and put into print. The Scotch-Irish, of Paxtang and Derry, were intensely patriotic. To them belongs the honor of first expressing in a series of resolutions, their opposition to English legislation and measures, in a meeting held Saturday, June 4th, 1774, when they resolved :

"First, That the recent action of the parliament of Great Britain is iniquitous and oppressive.

Second, That it is the bounden duty of the people to oppose every measure which tends to deprive them of their just prerogatives.

Third, That in a closer union of colonies lies the safeguard of the liberties of the people.

Fourth, That in the event of Great Britain attempting to force unjust laws upon us by the strength of arms our cause we leave to heaven and our rifles.

Fifth, That a committee of nine be appointed who shall act for us and in our behalf as emergencies may require."

This declaration is one of the earliest, if not the earliest of its kind on record and preceded the Mecklemburg convention in May, 1775, by nearly a year. Other resolutions of a similar character were adopted at Middletown, June 10, 1774, and by the Germans of Hummelstown, then Frederickstown, June 11, of the same year.

The Scotch-Irish settlement extended as far east as Lebanon. According to Dr. Schmauk a Presbyterian church was located near the "Basin" north of Lebanon. There was a large settlement of these people at the Union Water Works and throughout the whole of East Hanover township. One of the most illustrious descendants of these families in Hanover

township was Gen. John Harrison, who represented this county, both in the Senate and House of Representatives, and was a Brigadier General of Volunteers. He was the proprietor of a fulling mill in the northern part of the county, and was a very enterprising citizen, and took a keen interest in advancing the educational interests of his employees. This General Harrison has been confused with General Harrison, who was President of the United States, and while I understand some relationship existed between the two families, the Harrison of Presidential fame originated from a Virginia family, while Gen. John Harrison was born in Hanover township, Dauphin County. Other names of Scotch-Irish descendants found in East Hanover township are Bell, Sloan, McReight, Clark, McFarland, McMelory, McMehen, McKoun, McMurry, McCormick, McCoorey, McNite, Stewart, Wilson, McCollough and McNeely. Some of these secured land warrants. An examination of the titles of the lands in this section would no doubt reveal the names of many of these enumerated as having received land warrants in this section. The whole of Londonderry township was practically settled by the Scotch-Irish. John Campbell, who located near the centre of the township according to Dr. Egle, "in 1759 took out a patent for 352 acres of land in Derry township." He also purchased from Patrick Hayes and William Sawyer 102 acres of land adjoining the other tract. This land was joined by the lands of Widow Sloan, John McCord, William Sawyer and Peter Delebaugh. The land owned by the parties enumerated, and which occupied a large section in the middle of Londonderry township, is the tract in the centre of which the town of Campbellstown is now located. (This is called "Campbellstown" in the community, although the post office authorities have dropped the "s" and spell the word "Campbelltown.") Among the settlers in this locality were the Campbells, Semple, Patersons, Sawyers, Logans, McCallens, Geddes and Claytons. Among the descendants of these settlers was Findley Clayton whose daughter, Martha, now Mrs. Jacob Zug, of Manheim, Pa., informs me that her father

taught school in Londonderry township for 24 years. His widow still lives somewhere in Dauphin county. Another daughter, now deceased, was the wife of Michael Godshal, late of Richland, deceased, and at the time of his death was a Director of the Poor of this county.

I had hoped before the time came for the reading of this paper that I might be able to procure a more detailed account of this worthy educator.

Coming southward beyond the Conewago Hills, into the Conewago Valley, we find that the entire valley from Colebrook westward was originally settled by the Scotch-Irish. We find in this valley the names of Coleman, Robinson, Brown, Kelly, Logan, McLade, Walker, Hayes, Boyd, McCosh, Foster, McQueen, Stewart, Espy and Galbrath. Practically all of these names have disappeared from the county. Their places have been taken by the descendants of the early German settlers. The same can also be said of the northern part of Londonderry and of East Hanover townships. It would be interesting as well as valuable from a historical standpoint to get a complete history of all these early families and follow their descendants who located in the States of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

Among the prominent families of this section was the Robinson family to which belongs our esteemed fellow member, Mrs. Martha J. Ross, who spent the days of her youth in this valley when it was full of the energy and enterprise that emanated from, and was incident to, the operation of the Colebrook Furnaces.

In the early days in this valley there was a great deal of communication, both in business and religion, between these Scotch-Irish settlers all the way from Colebrook to Manada Gap. The people from the Colebrook Valley and from the neighborhood of Campbellstown attended the Presbyterian church at Derry, and many of these early settlers are buried in the graveyard adjoining this church. The teams belonging to the Colebrook Furnace went all the way to Manada

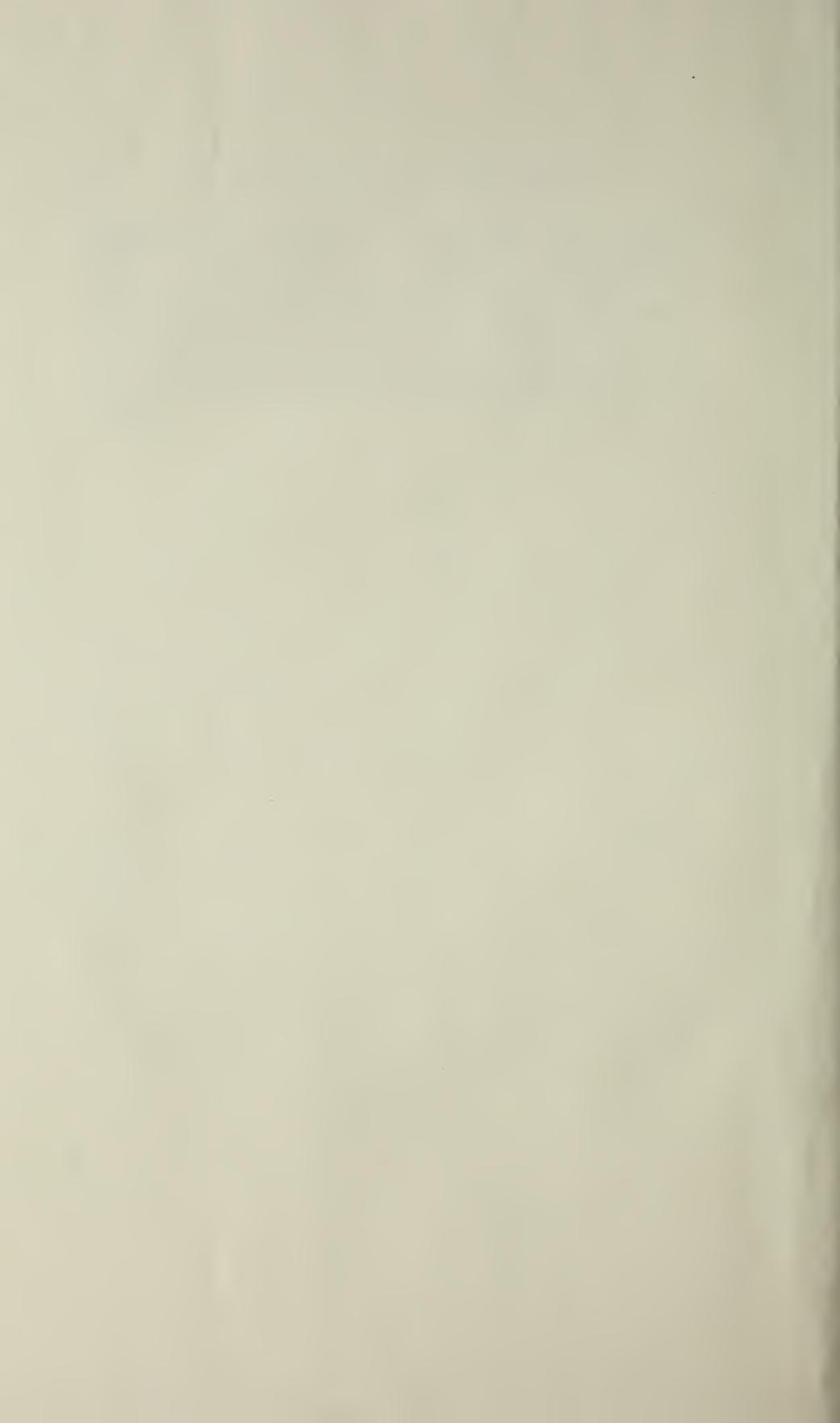
Gap to fetch charcoal, necessary for operating the furnaces, and there were business relations all the way among these people. The Robinsons, who established the Robosonia Furnaces, belonged to the same family already referred to.

An interesting fact is that in these early days there also came into this region and settled in Colebrook a number of German Catholic families whose origin and history I am not acquainted with.

From Miss Charlotte Youtz, of Philadelphia, I learn that the Catholic church near Colebrook, now abandoned, was established by these German Catholics. For several years they held services in the house of her father, Jacob Youtz, and in the early fifties he gave a corner lot of his farm on which to erect the small Catholic church which still remains standing. The church was built by Jacob Youtz and his brothers, assisted by John and James Ferry, Jacob and John Nagle, the Friels and many others. This church was attended monthly by a priest from Elizabethtown. The first Catholic priest to hold services in the house of Jacob Youtz was the venerable Rev. F. X. Marshall. After the church was erected it was attended by members from Cornwall, Palmyra and Campbells-town.

The name of Alexander Stewart, born in Ireland in 1780, who came to America at 17 years of age, and was employed for a long time on the Coleman estate, is also a prominent name in the Conewago Valley. The history of the manners and customs of these people, who played so important a part in the early settlement in this county, of whose descendants but few remain, furnishes a large and unexplored field for the local historian. I regret that I have been unable to gather more of the early traditions of these people. They were the pioneers of this section of the county. Their daring spirit and courageous patriotism caused them to take a very important part in subduing the treacherous Indians. They were wide awake on all public questions. Their descendants moved to the cities and took up the learned professions. Others im-

bibing the adventurous spirit of their fathers, went to subdue that wild country in the west. They carried with them their religion and their patriotism, so that to-day we find that the Scotch-Irish has formed a very important part in the development of the history of this great nation. The ancestry of not a few of the great moving spirits of this country is the same as that of the early settlers of the Western Border of Lebanon County.



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